

684.2673 DI

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
(Divisional Appln. of U.S. Appln. No. :
09/099,032, filed 6/18/98))
: Examiner: UNASSIGNED
YUTAKA BAN, ET AL. :
: Group Art Unit: UNASSIGNED
Application No.: UNASSIGNED)
:
Filed: May 14, 2001)
:
For: TONER SUPPLY CONTAINER) May 14, 2001
AND ELECTROPHOTOGRAPHIC :
IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicants have filed a Divisional Application herewith. Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following new paragraph on page 1, between lines 2 and 3.

--This application is a division of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/099,032, filed

June 18, 1998, still pending.--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 2-26 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Note that the claim currently pending in this application, has been reproduced below for the Examiner's convenience.

1. (Unamended) A toner supply container detachably mountable to a main assembly of an electrophotographic image forming apparatus, comprising:

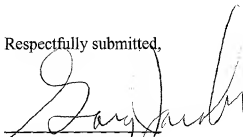
- (a) a toner accommodating portion for accommodating toner;
 - (b) a toner supply opening for discharging toner accommodated in said toner accommodating portion;
 - (c) a toner feeding member including a toner feeding portion for feeding the toner accommodated in said toner accommodating portion toward said toner supply opening by rotation thereof and an extension extending from the toner feeding portion, wherein a center of rotation of said toner feeding member is in an opening region of said toner supply opening as seen in the longitudinal direction of said toner feeding member,
- wherein said toner feeding member penetrates through said toner supply opening to outside of said toner supply opening, and wherein said extension is provided with a portion to be rotatably supported by the main assembly of the apparatus.

REMARKS

Applicants intend to file a second Preliminary Amendment adding new claims. Therefore, if the Examiner picks up this case before receiving the second Preliminary Amendment, Applicants request that he call the undersigned to obtain a copy thereof.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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